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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/522,481

01/26/2005

Guy-ho Cha

21C-0180

3887

23413

7590

08/04/2006

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EXAMINER

LEE, JOHN D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2874

DATE MAILED: 08/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/522,481	CHA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	John D. Lee	2874	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 January 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>20050126</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 (a)-(d) or (f). A copy of the certified copy of the priority document has been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

The nine (9) sheets of drawings filed in this application on January 26, 2005, are acceptable.

The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors therein. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,175,396 to Kim et al in view of U.S. Patent 5,583,681 to Shioya et al. Kim et al discloses a liquid crystal display which includes essentially the same components as the backlight assembly claimed by applicant. See column 1 of Kim et al for a description of the parts and layout thereof, showing that they are arranged substantially the same as in applicant's claimed invention. Kim et al does not disclose an elastic adhesive member for attaching the assembly to the receiving container, for the purpose of absorption of impact forces and prevention of damage to the display components. Shioya et al, however, clearly teaches the use of elastic adhesives for this very purpose in a liquid crystal display like that of Kim et al. See, for example, claims 1 and 2 of Shioya et al. Since the devices of Shioya et al and Kim et al are so similar, and since the absorption of

impact forces and prevention of damage would be highly desirable in Kim et al as well as in Shioya et al, the inclusion of elastic adhesive attachment members in Kim et al for attaching the internal elements to the housing (in accordance with the teachings of Shioya et al) would have been obvious to the person of ordinary skill in the art. The various claimed structural details of the elastic adhesive attachment members (i.e. having the elastic adhesive coated on a foamed resin, having different surfaces of the elastic adhesive have different adhesive forces, or having the elastic adhesive placed in a fixing hole which receives a fixing boss) represent mere implementation details, and would be well within the general engineering skill of the person of ordinary skill in the art. That is, since it would have been obvious to include the elastic adhesive attachment members in Kim et al as outlined above, the specific manner of incorporating them would likewise have been obvious.

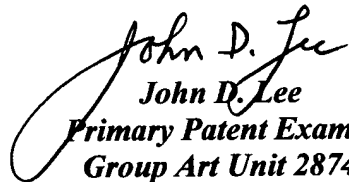
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Other descriptions of the use of elastic adhesive attachment members for absorbing impact forces in liquid crystal display devices can be seen in U.S. Patents 5,808,707 to Niibori et al and 6,067,133 to Niibori et al.

All of the prior art documents cited by applicant in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on January 26, 2005, including the Kim et al reference relied on in the rejection above, have been considered and made of record. Note the attached initialed copy of form PTO-1449.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were

made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR § 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the Examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Any inquiry concerning the merits of this communication should be directed to Examiner John D. Lee at telephone number (571) 272-2351. The Examiner's normal work schedule is Tuesday through Friday, 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Any inquiry of a general or clerical nature (i.e. a request for a missing form or paper, etc.) should be directed to the Technology Center 2800 receptionist at telephone number (571) 272-1562, to the technical support staff supervisor (Team 8) at telephone number (571) 272-1564, or to the Technology Center 2800 Customer Service Office at telephone number (571) 272-1626.


John D. Lee
Primary Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2874